

Docket No. 2003-050-TAP

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

**MITIGATING THE EFFECTS OF INOPERABLE SERVO READERS  
USED FOR DATA TRACK POSITIONING ON TAPE DRIVES**

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A method, system and program for mitigating the effects of one or more inoperable servo readers used for data track positioning on a tape drive are disclosed. A track following servo system can compensate for an  
10 inoperable servo reader by collecting and measuring tape distortion information from the tape involved. The track following servo system can quantify the tape distortion information and produce a tracking offset value. The track following servo system can then position an  
15 inoperable servo reader over the tape with the compensating offset value applied.